

MEXICO / this month

February

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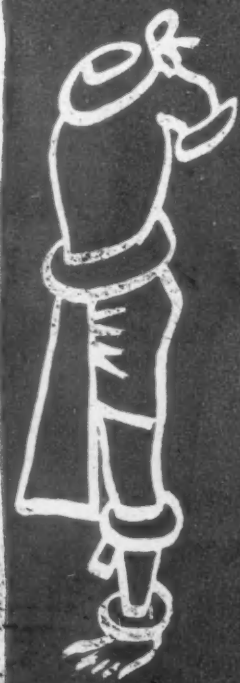
FEBRUARY - MARCH

Corps of:

**Mexican Dance Academy
in the Teatro del Bosque,
Chapultepec Park**

**New Dance Workshop
National University Ballet
in the Palace of Fine Arts**

See newspapers for details



Preview

WHAT TO SEE, WHERE TO GO IN FEBRUARY

FIESTAS & SPECTACLES

San Juan de los Lagos, Jalisco, Feb. 2.

These villagers have strong religious traditions, and the festival dedicated to their patron saint, the Virgen de San Juan de los Lagos, lasts two full weeks. Pilgrims come from all over Mexico to attend the religious ceremonies as well as to see the colorful dances, including the traditional representation of battles



between ancient Christians and Moors. Fireworks, rodeo, cockfights and expositions of handicrafts.

San Juan Teotihuacán, México, Feb. 2. A religious fiesta held in honor of Nuestra Señora de la Candelaria. Located just 52 kilometers north of Mexico City, this is also one of the most important archaeological zones in the Republic.

Tlacotalpan, Veracruz, Feb. 2-8. Religious festival honoring the Virgen de Candelaria, and featuring a regional fair. The high points are a nocturnal parade of grotesque figures, cockfights, musical duels in which the singers insult each other extemporaneously, and the *huapangos*, *bambas* and other exciting dances native to Veracruz.

Mardi Gras, Feb. 28 - Mar. 5. This is the time of year when everyone blows the lid off their frustrations with a blast of carnival-inspired steam. Merrymakers celebrate from one end of the Republic to the other, each section with a few variations on the central Mardi Gras theme. Although the celebration begins officially at Thursday dawn, many fiestas start on the previous Sunday and continue merrily until Ash Wednesday.

Cities with a reputation for all-out festivals are Veracruz, Mazatlán, Tampico, Mérida, Morelia, Guadalajara, Monterrey and Ensenada. The village of Huejotzingo, Puebla, presents a spectacle depicting bat-

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Saturday 2 — Fiesta de la Candelaria, the last of the cycle of Christmas festivals. It is the custom on Day of the Kings, January 6, to offer slices of a pastry, *Rosca de Reyes*, to members of the family and intimate friends. A tiny porcelain doll is baked in the cake and whoever discovers it must give a party four weeks later, on this date.

Tuesday 5 — Constitution Day, this year the centennial celebration of the Constitution of 1857, embodying the liberal reforms of Benito Juárez, as well as the Constitution of 1917, which grew out of the Revolution of 1910.



Thursday 28 through March 5 — Mardi Gras. (See Fiestas & Spectacles).

Thursday 28 to March 28 — Italian Industrial Fair at the National Auditorium, Paseo de la Reforma. Products to be exhibited include foods, machinery, glassware, ceramics, fabrics, leather and jewelry.

All month — The Atayde Circus, Calzada de Tlalpan 855, presents two shows daily at 6 and 9:15 pm, and four on Sundays, at 11 am, 4, 7 and 10 pm. The Union Circus, on Obispo Mundial near the Social Security Ball Park, offers performances at the same hours.

Sometime in February — Lecture programs under the sponsorship of the National University on the general theme of *20th Century Spanish Poetry*. Call 24-40-00, Ext. 124, for dates and individual program subjects.

IN THIS ISSUE

You explore Guadalajara and nearby villages, learn about charros, cook *pozole*...

and

Our Regular Features

MEXICO/ this month

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tles between the French Zouave invaders and the Mexican defenders; Tepoztlán, near Cuernavaca, offers dances reminiscent of that same era. Xochimilco, of floating garden fame, celebrates the Xaltocán Fair at the same time.

Tehuacan, Michoacán, Feb. 15. The old capital of the Tarascan Indians, now a modern city on the shore of Lake Patzcuaro, is the center of a regional fair in which the Rescue of the Señor de la Santa Cruz is celebrated. Young men wearing carved masks creak through the Dance of the Old Men, and a fleet of primitive boats sweeps over the lake in a regatta.

Matías Romero, Oaxaca, Feb. 22-26. Each year a commercial fair is held in the heart of the tropical isthmus of Tehuantepec, noted for its folklore and beautiful women. The regional dance, *La Zandunga*, is performed by graceful Tehuanas swirling full velvet skirts and flashing gold coins and chains from neck and wrist.

Taxco, Guerrero, Feb. 25. One kilometer from Taxco is the village of Telca-

pulco where, after the regional dances of *Los Tecomates* and *Los Gallitos*, folk music and fireworks, a religious ceremony in the Chapel of Chavarrietas will climax the day's festivities.

ART

Galería Antonio Souza, Génova 61-2. Series of oils, *The Cats*, by Alice Rahon.

Galería Central de Arte Moderno, Av. Juárez 4. Permanent collective exhibition of the works of Orozco, Rivera, Siqueiros, Tamayo, Covarrubias, Charlot, Gustavo Montoya; watercolors by Ignacio Beteta.

Galería de Arte Mexicano, Milán 18. The exhibition of Robert Ellis continues. From February 7 to 27, paintings by Alfonso Michel.

Galería de Artes Plásticas de la Ciudad de México, pergola in the Central Alameda. Oils by Héctor Zapata February 5 to 28.

Galería de Artistas Unidos, S. A., Londres 87, upstairs. Collective showing by members, who include Xavier Guerrero, Chávez Morado, Siqueiros, Rosendo Soto. Monthly auction of paintings and lithographs.

Galería Diego Rivera, Ignacio Mariscal 70. Permanent showing of the works of Diego Rivera, and presentation of his latest drawings, watercolors and oils.

Galerías Chapultepec, across from the Monument to the Niños Héroes at the entrance to Chapultepec Park. Exhibition of works produced in

Schools of Painting and Sculpture in various parts of the Republic.

Galerías Excelsior, Reforma 18. Oils by Belgian painter Saverys.

Instituto de Arte de México, Puebla 141. Color engravings by the Mexican Society of Engravers.

Instituto Mexicano-Norteamericano de Relaciones Culturales, Hamburgo 115. Collective exhibit on the theme *Animals in Art*.

Museo Nacional de Artes e Industrias Populares, Av. Juárez 44. Exhibition of photographs and original native handicrafts. Permanent exhibit of applied popular arts. Ceramics, silver, blown glass, straw, embroidery.

Museo Nacional de Artes Plásticas, Palace of Fine Arts. Sala Nacional: contemporary French art. **Sala de la Amistad Internacional:** works of Werner Klemke; exhibition of Austrian paintings. **Sala Verde:** Czechoslovakian popular art.

Salón de la Plástica Mexicana, Puebla 154. The Christmas Sale continues. Works of 50 Mexican painters available for from 50 to 1,000 pesos.

MUSIC

Ballet — by the New Theater of Dance and the National University dance group, in late February or early March, at the Palace of Fine Arts. At the same time, the Mexican Dance Academy in the Teatro del Bosque, Chapultepec Park. See newspapers for complete information.



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Chamber Music — In mid-February the first series of concerts will be initiated, with the Fine Arts Chamber Orchestra and various soloists. Monday at 9 pm in the Sala Ponce of Fine Arts Palace.

Piano Concert — On February 3 and 4, at 9 pm in the Palace of Fine Arts, the Asociación Musical Daniel, A. C., will present pianist Claudio Arrau, as soloist and with the orchestra.

THEATER

The Chalk Garden — by English dramatist Eric Bagnold, will be presented by Players, A.C., English-language repertory group, from February 12 to March 10. Directed by Earl Sennet. Villalongín 32, 25-31-56. Daily, except Mondays, at 8:30 pm.

Arsénico y Encaje — Arthur Kaesserling's famous suspense drama, *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Produced by Manolo Fábregas, who also directs and takes part in the play. With Doña Prudencia Griffel, Ana Berta Lepe, Fanny Schiller and Yerye Beirute. Teatro de los Insurgentes, Insurgentes 1587, 24-58-91. Daily, except Mondays, at 8:30 pm; Saturdays, 7:15 and 9:45 pm; Sundays, 5 and 8 pm.

Los Inocentes — Comedy by Archibald, with Magda Guzmán, Francisco Müller, Zolla Quiliones and the new child star Héctor Tamayo. Directed by José de J. Aceves. Teatro del Caracol, Palma and Donceles. 21-71-55. Daily at 7:15 and 9:45 pm; Sundays at 4, 7 and 10 pm.

La Quinceañera Impaciente — William Douglas Home's English drama *The Debutante*, translated to Spanish by Mercedes Cabrera. With Fernando Mendoza, who also directs, Manolita Saval, Teresa Velázquez, Luis Lomeli and Rosa Furman. Teatro Sullivan, Sullivan 25, 46-07-72. Daily at 7:15 and 9:45 pm; Sundays at 5 and 8 pm; closed Mondays.

Una Vista Sobre el Puente — Arthur Miller's dramatic success *View from the Bridge*, in Spanish translation, with Mexico's outstanding young stage actor Ignacio López Tarzo, and Rosa Elena Durgel, Rodolfo Landa and Carlos Nieto. Directed by Ignacio Retes. Teatro Ariel, Co-

zumel 35, 35-39-40. Daily at 7:15 and 9:30 pm; Sundays at 5 and 8 pm; closed Tuesdays.

BULLFIGHTS

February is the height of the winter season when the upper-class bullfighters, the *matadores*, fight the biggest and bravest bulls the local *ganaderías* are able to supply. This year the most colorful of the Spanish matadors have been contracted to fight in the world's largest arena, Plaza México (capacity 50,000). Mexican matadors chosen to appear in the Plaza are: Fernando de los Reyes *El Callao*, the sensation of last year's season; Juan Silvetti, son of the famous matador of the same name; unpredictable Miguel Angel, versatile Manuel Capetillo, and the promising Luciano Contreras.

Admission is from 4 and 6 pesos in the sun or shade, respectively, up to 35 and 75 pesos at the ringside. In-between prices vary with distance from the ring and whether the seats are on the sunny or shady side.



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Charrerías — Every Sunday charros gather at ranches or plazas to demonstrate their considerable equestrian skills (see page 18). All of the following ranchos are open to the public, free of charge:



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Rancho La Tapatía, next to the Molino del Rey, at the west end of Chapultepec Park.

Rancho del Charro, on Ejército Nacional near its crossing with Calzada Mariano Escobedo.

Rancho Grande, just across the highway west of the large bronze statues at the entrance to Mexico City coming in from Laredo.

Rancho del Hormiguero, Calzada Atzacapotzalco in the La Villa section.

Rancho Santa Anita, at the village of the same name in the Federal District.

Charrerías are held regularly at the nearby town of Tlalnepantla, Puente de Vigas, San Bartolo Naucalpan and Atzacapotzalco, on the outskirts of Mexico City.

Racing — Hipódromo de Las Américas. Lomas de Sotelo, D. F. Races every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 2 pm. February's big event is the 11th annual running of the Good Neighbor Handicap. This 1-1/16 mile race will be held Sunday 17 for 4-year-olds and over, and features an added purse of 75,000 pesos.

Polo — Campo Marte, Chapultepec Park, on Paseo de la Reforma, just beyond the National Auditorium. The handicap matches begun in January for the benefit of private charities continue between various Mexico City teams. Game every Sunday at 12 noon.

SPORTS

Baseball — Three 3-game series will be played February 1-3 as the Veracruz Winter League season continues. The first will be Poza Rica v. Puebla at Puebla. The second will be Aztecas v. Córdoba at Córdoba, and

the third series sees Jalapa playing México.

Boxing — Arena Coliseo, Perú 77. National and international fights Saturdays and Wednesdays at 9 pm. The card regularly features 2 preliminary bouts, 2 semifinals and the main event. Local boxers internationally ranked are Raúl Ratón Macías, NBA bantamweight champion; and Memo Diez, No. 1. challenger for the flyweight title of the world.

Frontón (Jal Alai) — In Frontón Colón, Ignacio Ramírez 15, near the U.S. Embassy. Here at 4 pm every day except Thursday, girls play *frontenis* using racquets and a hard ball. Admission 4 and 8 pesos. The old court, Frontón México, where the best professionals play with the traditional basket is closed for repairs.

Soccer — University City Stadium. Of special interest is the game to be played February 17 between a Mexico City selection and a selection from among 3 visiting teams: Peñarol, Uruguay; Racine, Argentina; and the champion of the local league, Guadalajara.

Tennis — Club Deportivo Chapultepec, on Calzada Mariano Escobedo, across Reforma from Chapultepec Park. On February 3-9 the finals of the Class B mixed doubles will be played. the *Campeonato Interestatal*, patterned after the Davis Cup Tournament, will be held during the last week in February.

Water Skiing — Class B competition the second week of February, in Acaapulco.

Wrestling — Arena Coliseo, Perú 77. Matches every Friday at 8:30 pm, and Sundays at 5 pm. Many of the wrestlers have grunted and groaned in arenas all over the world. Top bone crushers are *El Cavernario Galindo*, *El Gladiador*, *Black Shadow*, *Blus Demon*, *El Médico Asesino*, and *El Santo*.

HUNTING & FISHING

Hunting and fishing are year round sports in Mexico. If the season is closed on trout, it is open on bass — and there is always the scrappy tarpon or

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graceful sailfish in the Gulf and the Pacific Ocean. Hunting ranges from the big, dangerous jaguar to the fast-moving white-tailed deer.

Trout of all kinds are out of season this month, but the season is open on about every other fresh water and salt water game fish. For hunters, the season is open on grouse, white-tailed dove and duck, as well as lynx, ocelot, and white-tailed deer in some areas. Other predatory animals have open season, so inquire locally.

Be sure to specify on your tourist card that you intend to hunt so that the necessary papers are prepared for you. Four arms of different calibres are allowed to enter the country with the hunter. Three types of arms used by the Mexican Army are denied entry.

Hunting licenses are issued by the Dirección Forestal y de Caza, main office at the corner of Rosales and Ignacio Mariscal in Mexico City, or by any forest ranger out in the field. Fishing licenses are issued at any of the larger ports, or at the Dirección General de Pesca, José Azueta 9, Mexico City.



OF SPECIAL INTEREST IN COMING MONTHS

Viennese Octet — March 4 and 6, at 9 pm, in the Palace of Fine Arts; March 5, same hour, in Monterrey. Presented by Asociación Musical Daniel, A.C.

Accordian Concert — March 25, 8:30 pm, in the Sala Chopin, Insurgentes and Puebla. Under the direction of Ernest Thiel.

Flower Festival — in Xochimilco, will be celebrated April 12. Music, dancing, canoe rides and the election of a queen. This fiesta has been held annually for more than 500 years.

National Forestry Exposition — under the auspices of the Mexican government, in the National Auditorium from April 18 to May 31.

Good Friday, April 19 — Passion Play in Ixtapalapa, D. F. People of the village stage brilliant, moving interpretation of the events leading to Calvary.

Russian Ballet Duo — with Kovach and Rabovsky, sometime in May. Presentation of Asociación Musical Daniel, A.C., in Fine Arts Palace.

Pan American Course in Orchestra Direction — in the Palace of Fine Arts, May 20 to June 25. Free admission to the rehearsals and some concerts of Maestro Igor Markevitch and his students, with the National Symphony Orchestra and the Chamber Music Orchestra of Fine Arts. Organized by the National Institute of Fine Arts.

Corpus Christi Day, June 20 — Spectacular dance of the *Voladores*, in Papantla, Veracruz, performed by Totonac Indians.

National Symphony Orchestra — Eight pairs of Friday night and Sunday morning concerts in May and June Palace of Fine Arts. Directors: Luis Herrera de la Fuente and Igor Markevitch.

In June — Josef Fuchs, violinist, and Ann Schein, pianist, will make their first appearance in Mexico.

February Suitcase

This is the month to pack up your confetti and serpentina, crazy crepe paper hats and the other festive trimmings¹ you may have saved from New Year's celebration, to come South for a dancing-in-the-streets vacation in any of the many Mexican cities where Mardi Gras or Carnival celebrations are the tradition.

We'll include other spots in an overall February weather prediction, in the event you're looking for peace and quiet instead of fun and frolic. Carnival towns are marked by an asterisk.

	Degrees Fahrenheit
Acapulco	78*
Córdoba	63
*Cuernavaca	67
(nearby at Tepostlán)	
Chihuahua	53
Durango	56
*Ensenada	56
Fortín de las Flores	64
Guadalajara	61
Guajuato	60
*Guaymas	66
Hermosillo	63
*Jalapa	60
León	61
*Masatlán	67
*Mérida	74
México, D. F.	56
*Monterrey	62
*Morelia	60
Oaxaca	66
Orizaba	61
Pátzcuaro	55
*Puebla	60
(nearby at Huejotzingo)	
Querétaro	60
Saltillo	56
San José Purúa	60
San Miguel Allende	59
*Tampico	68
Taxco	69
Tehuantepec	66
Tepec	63
Toluca	52
Tuxtla Gutiérrez	73
Uruapan	62
*Veracruz	71

¹ Don't bother to bring along any *espanta-suegras* (mother-in-law frighteners); they have plenty of them here. They are those tightly wound rolls that blow out suddenly with a feather on the end.



Our Afghan hound has survived a number of diseases and remedies since we last called him to your notice, and he has now emerged from puppyhood to acquire a possessive feeling about his premises and a resentment of intrusion, which causes him to bark. The other evening, while sitting with him in front of the fireplace, we playfully attempted a few growls and barks for his amusement. His immediate response to this was to run away from us to the front door where he produced some superior barks. This action puzzled us until we put ourselves in a canine frame of mind and realized that nobody would growl or bark indoors unless something suspicious was going on out of doors.

The vast culture of old Spain not only left its mark on Mexico but is still making its mark. The present-day Spaniard in Mexico is well known for his grocery shops and restaurants, and he is also known as a talented artisan. He will produce decorative wrought iron, which he likes to call *fer forgé*, to complement the piece you got in Santander. Or, if you want an old statue regilded or something new to be gilded in 13th century style, you can have it *al agua* or, less expensively, *a la mistión*, ancient processes mastered in Valladolid and still practiced by the Spaniard in Mexico. And his price is cheap. We should add a note of advice: if his customer should be unaware of the painstaking hours required to do the job and try to drive a "bargain", he will get a lowered price and a superficial piece of work... a performance which is called *trampa*.

Given our preoccupation with affairs of the spirit and the mind, you might think that we pay no attention to economic conditions, but we do. We rely heavily on The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. (Washington, D.C.), because it doesn't shrink from saying what it thinks. In a recent report it thinks that "Demand for food will continue strong..." We take heart from this prediction. For our part, rising prices had begun to affect our appetites.

Angus

Letters

FOR CUBS

...I have nearly worn out the December issue of MTM! I am again a Den Mother, and we have been making a *piñata* and a papier maché radish as described in this last issue. Our Den is putting on the Christmas skit at Pack meeting and we'll be giving some highlights from the magazine and using some of our treasured memories of our trip there two years ago.

Wilma Grossman
Denver, Colorado

LETTER FROM THE JONESES

...Through this letter we hope to share our aims and accomplishments with those who have been interested in our program and helped us develop it.

We are particularly interested in helping visitors meet local persons with the same or similar interests. This often not only increases the enjoyment of the visit but also makes available to Mexico expert knowledge which can be effectively utilized. We also like to introduce our guests to delightful but little known places where the commercial agencies are not likely to send their clients because they have not yet been "developed" for the tourist trade...

Our "Open House" Tuesday afternoons continues to attract interest. Our guests of honor have been scholars and persons responsible for programs whose purpose it is to benefit Mexico.

Such persons through informal discussions with those in attendance have been able to share their discoveries, problems and accomplishments with an appreciative audience. Students and trainees returning to Mexico after a period abroad or persons passing through the country on their way home have had an opportunity to report on their observations and experiences...

As our contacts and knowledge widen an increasing number of persons from other countries than Mexico and the U.S. become interested in what we are doing. There are over a thousand students from foreign countries other than the U.S. studying in Mexico and many of the persons from other parts of the world studying in the U.S. we have found want to visit Mexico before returning home. We have tried to help such persons but what we can do is limited until some means is discovered for financing such work more adequately.

Robert C. Jones
Chilpancingo 23
México 11, D. F.
Tel: 25-20-12

Nearly three years have passed since Bob and Inge Jones established what has become known as Villa Jones, a hostel and orientation center operated in conjunction with Quaker House, same address. Space does not permit publication of the entire letter, but the activities mentioned above constitute only a small portion of those successfully promoted by the Joneses in the interests of mutual understanding and assistance. They invite inquiries and cooperation.

MEXICO/this month - EVERY MONTH!

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person to person

February being "back to school" month in Mexico (like September in the U.S.) we thought we'd try to put before you something of what has been going on here in that field, it being an extraordinary story.

And though the pictures and dramatic facts in Toss Olsen's article give an idea, at least, of the nature and sweep of the job being done, we all realized in handling the material that dozens of pictures, a book, or better still a movie could barely do it justice. To pull large chunks of the population out of almost Stone Age times into useful citizens of now, is literally the assignment in many parts of the country. And the teachers who have been engaging in this work have to be not only dedicated but pretty courageous, giving up all contact with city safeties and delights and taking the chance of death itself, from disease or — let's call it lack of welcome.

How many teachers have been martyrs in this extreme sense is a story yet to be told. But, though nowadays the risk is considerably less, due to those who have ploughed the ground already, the spirit in which the first went out on this kind of mission is such that it has aroused worldwide interest. Scholars and officials of many countries, where also the problems of illiteracy, lack of communications and personnel, and poverty, present themselves, visit Mexico frequently, to study methods and above all to learn the "secret" of Mexico's dynamics and achievements in education.

Take a look at the pictures, and read between the lines of the facts. Turns out the "secret" is an old-fashioned one. Selflessness. Even more truly — love.

That pretty word, in another sense, is supposedly what makes life especially worth living in Jalisco, whose capital city Guadalajara occupies our central spread this month. Jalisco, the home of swashbuckling braves (otherwise known as charros), de-

mure but fiery señoritas (at their balconies at dusk), and delicately subtle scholars moved by artistry and piety, has produced many legends about itself, and it also makes — along with art — tequila.

This is a part of the country which goes straight back to Spain, more specifically Andalusia, in most of its origins, and although in these days there is a strong flavor of Texas about



some of the streets in downtown Guadalajara, the general atmosphere is still there, and the charm — if you look. For this purpose, our reporters and scouts have provided you with as complete a listing as could be put together in the brief space we have available.

That leaves us the pleasure of telling you about Jalisco's governor, who is — as often happens in this land where art and politics still sometimes go hand in hand — also Mexico's leading novelist. He hasn't written much though since he's been occupying the gubernatorial chair. He has set his heart instead on a more prosaic,

but extremely exciting creative work — the opening up and development of Jalisco's beautiful coast country.

Puerto Vallarta, already known as a winter Eden, is only one of the lovely spots to which highways now in progress will bring new life and wealth. Our Vlady reports that the ride from Puerto Vallarta to Tepic, capital of the neighboring state of Nayarit, can be done now only in a jeep but is more than worth it. He says there is landscape such as no one would believe, as well as amazing fauna. Bluebirds the size of large crows, and butterflies like pages from a folio, are among the wonders he describes. He tops it off with details about the seafood down there. Oysters several inches across... four of them more than he could eat, and he's a two-dozen man.

Just about the time we were wrapping up Jalisco — Jalisco, with its music and romance, regrettably postponing much for other issues — there arrived an indignant letter from Hart Stilwell, an authority on fishing and other things in Mexico. This communication was about tequila, disagreeing violently with anyone who says you put salt on your hand and toss it up after you suck the lemon after you drink the drink. But that's certainly how they do it in Jalisco, and a few other places besides. Hart says best way to drink it is green... that is, seven parts tequila to one part creme de menthe.

Dutifully, we tried his "parrot". Maybe we're just old-fashioned. We'll stick to lemon and salt. But we'd like reports from readers of gourmet curiosity or scientific bent.

Yet more exotic than Stilwell's green tequila is a recipe just brought by a friend who alleges it's an infallible cure for colds, grippe, and related miseries. It's an old family secret. You make a tea of crab apple, bougainvillea, cinnamon, a resinous sliver of pine, and rum, and drink it with a meringue dropped in. He says it has to be taken very hot, and you must stay well covered as you perspire like blazes. Next morning you're good as new.

P.S. You can also put tequila in this one.

NATIONAL PANORAMA

THE MEXICAN ECONOMY AND THE STOCK MARKET IN 1956

as released to MTM by the
Bureau of Economic Research,
Nacional Financiera, S. A.

The economic progress achieved by Mexico in 1956 capped a decade of rapid development at an average rate of 6% per year. Last year's advances were highlighted by substantial increases in national savings and in exports, which permitted record volumes of investment, production and imports. Overall price rises were limited to 4.6% during 1956.

The stock market in 1956 reflected high levels of business activity, monetary stability, and confidence in the economic outlook. Total stock market transactions increased 16% over 1955, with major strides in the organized exchange in Mexico City. Large volumes of transactions were shifted to the Mexico City Exchange, housed in its new building, which formerly were carried on in the over-the-counter markets of Nacional Financiera and other financial centers. Exchange operations in 1956 were more than double the volume of all previous years together since its opening in 1933.

Stock quotations were on the average 16.5% higher than in 1955, led by Industrials, which were up 19%. Prices of bonds and other fixed-interest securities were maintained at their 1955 level, reflecting confidence in the market place in the stability of the peso.

Important changes took place in fixed-interest holdings. The growth of the capital markets in Mexico is key-noted by an increase of 9% over 1955 in the overall circulation of fixed-interest securities. Of these, the value of private obligations was up 17.5%, while public bonds outstanding increased 8%. Furthermore, private holdings showed substantial increases, while the Bank of Mexico portfolio declined 14% with respect to 1955.

These outstanding features of the stock market in 1956 add up to solid confidence in Mexico's industrial development.

News and Comment

That Black Box

It used to be that on October 1 Mexicans very confidently put away their rain clothes until the following May, but Professor José Ugalde Pérez (see MTM Dec. 1956) and his little black box for "ionizing the atmosphere" and making rain have changed all that.

Since November 5 when a strange, short rainstorm blew up out of nowhere and showered Mexico City, the newspapers have been full of the Professor. He stated that he had caused that rain. The meteorological service and the airport weather service said no, the natural signs were all there.

But then the Governor of the state of Coahuila, where they had been having a drought, invited Ugalde to see what he could do in the arid north country. And coincidence or not, rain fell in the middle of December while Ugalde was there—some in places where rain had not fallen in 20 years.

Ugalde returned to Mexico City stating that more rain would have fallen if his main apparatus hadn't gone out of whack (he will give no details until he has secured the first patent rights he has applied for in both Mexico and the U.S.). His next project is to give the Mezquital Valley, just north of Mexico City, a drenching in a test sponsored by one of the capital's newspapers and monitored by a group of government experts.

Reaction to his claims was classic. He was offered a movie contract. However, the Professor summarily dismissed the proposal, saying he was too busy perfecting his rain-making apparatus and working on his new book, *Has the Mystery of Life Been Discovered?* (Making rain is only one application of his discovery, he avers.)

Pipes Across the Rio

Fifty-five U.S. financiers, bankers and insurance men, representing more than a thousand million dollars of investment money, took a quick look at new installations of Petróleos Mexicanos last month. Invited by the Texas Eastern Transmission Company, one of the contractors for the new gas line between Reynosa, Mexico and McAllen, Texas, they first inspected this project, now under construction. Mexico, which

uses mostly butane for domestic purposes, produces much more natural gas than can be consumed internally, so this new gas line, which will connect with the system of Texas Eastern, will mean the sale of a minimum 115 million cubic feet.

The group then came on down to Mexico City where PEMEX hosted them on a tour of the new Azcapotzalco refinery, the pyramids of San Juan Teotihuacán, University City, and a visit with President Ruiz Cortines.

Going Strong

The Comité Norteamericano Pro-México released its annual report last month: "Going into its third year of existence the Comité continues its diversified activities to promote better relations between Mexico and the United States and to encourage more tourist travel into Mexico"... One project which will bear fruit in 1957 is the first accredited School of Journalism in Mexico, set up under the auspices of the Ministry of Education and the National Polytechnic Institute. Its director, Lic. Enrique Aceves Mendoza, was given a scholarship by the Comité for a ten months course of study at the Indiana University School of Journalism, which he has just recently completed, and he is now working on organizing the school.

Flag on High

The Revillagigedo Islands which lie just opposite the state of Colima in an archipelago stretching out into the Pacific Ocean at a 45° angle from the shore, are a little known part of Mexican territory. Despite the fact that nine expeditions, from 1533 to 1950, have visited, charted and explored the islands, and they are formally recognized as belonging to Mexico, no one had ever bothered to establish a garrison and plant a flag there. But last month a full scale, two-ship expedition, commanded by a Rear Admiral, set out from Acapulco to plant a permanent outpost on the largest island, Socorro. The islands are supposed to be rich in sulfur and guano fertilizer so it probably won't be long before the Naval force is followed by businessmen, carrying the flag of industry.

CARNIVAL

Carnival in Mexico still retains much of the genuine gaiety and madness of true Mardi Gras celebrations. In Veracruz, where the people are light-hearted any Saturday — or weekday — hotels are filled to overflowing and many people don't bother with taking rooms. Mazatlán and other seaport cities have a reputation for their uninhibited Mardi Gras festivities, as does Mérida in Yucatán.

More staid are ceremonies of the inland cities, where the traditional Ugly King and a Queen chosen for her beauty preside over the allegorical parades and masked balls. But in Huejotzingo the celebration includes the ceremonious kidnapping of a lovely damsel. We've never known for sure whether her charro brings her back.

Some cities erupt, so be careful. In Morelia they still like to shatter water-filled egg shells against the heads of unwary passersby.

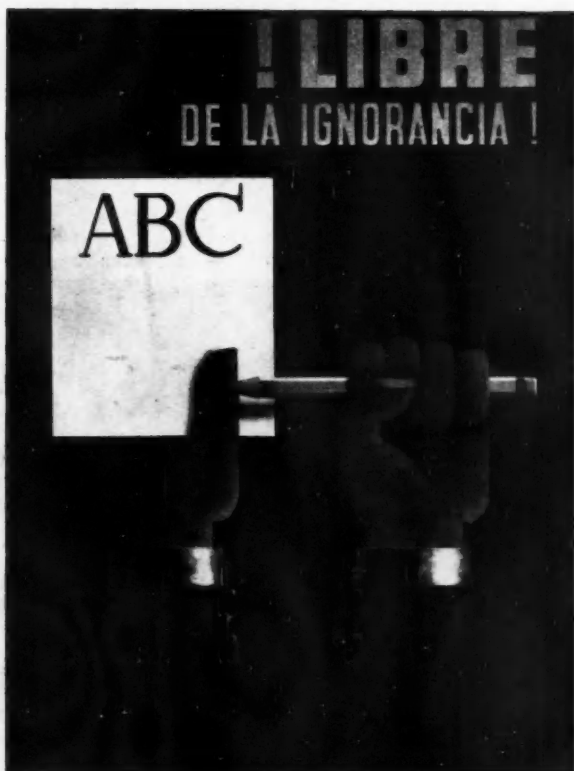


Fiesta in Guadalajara.

Photo Juan Victor Arauz

in February

"Literacy is Freedom" has been the slogan of Mexico in its educational drive. Posters like this express the idea dramatically.



Back to School

By Toss Olsen

On February 7 the school children of Mexico shrug into their book-filled knapsacks and start back to classes. Their big vacation, which began late in November, is over. Some of them will ride a bus out to ultra-modern University City; others may walk mountain miles to a rustic lean-to. But go to school they will.

That the schools are there, and that poorly paid teachers sacrifice a materially richer life to teach in many primitive areas, is in itself a tribute to the dedication of Mexican educators, from the Secretary of Public Education to the humblest rural teacher.

It was not always this way. Just one generation ago 85% of the people were illiterate. Education was something that most men might not even dream of for their children. But the revolution that swept through the land from 1910 to 1920 aimed at much that

(Continued on page 11)



The adobe hut at the left will serve as a school while a new one is being built. Above, students practice tumbling as part of an athletics program at an internado school in the state of Veracruz.

After Winter Vacation Mexico Reopens Schools Revealing a Dramatic Struggle and Advance

Photos courtesy S. E. P.

While the first graders do their ABC's under the vigilant eye of the teacher, the adults at the right wait to register for reading and writing classes at a rural school. When these men were children, there were no schools for them.

Photo Mayo





Photo courtesy S. E. P.

In 1910 a sixth of the population was literate. Today one-half read and write.

a man *could* dream of, a full stomach and more. To the cry for freedom and land was added the great voice of the men who dared dream of learning for all of the people.

"Land, liberty and schools!" was shouted in meetings and rallies and guerrilla camps throughout the country, and some even died with the words on their lips and the great dream strong in their minds.

Education. Something that in many countries is taken for granted. But not in poor nations like Mexico. Here, it is a magic thing to be carried to the people with all the dedication of missionary friars generations past.

Although education has been many times declared "free and compulsory."

(Continued on page 23)

Mural painting — for which modern Mexican art is famous — has gone hand in hand with the building of schools. Rivera and Orozco painted University walls, the younger artists do rural schools. The leading artists — now great names — initiated the humble practice of charging for their work by the square meter.

Photo Mayo





Guadalajara's powerful painter, José Clemente Orozco, left many examples of his work in his native city. This one, *The Man in the Fire*, painted on the dome of the Hospicio Cabañas is being restored. However, many other panels and vaults are visible.

In the center of the picture is the Cathedral, the starting point for the sightseer.

Photos Juan Victor Arauz



GUADALAJARA



By Marianne Goerits

Guadalajara, second largest city in Mexico and capital of the state of Jalisco, is a romantic place, known for its beautiful girls and dashing, hard-riding charros. One song calls Guadalajara "the sweetheart of Jalisco," and in oratory it is always referred to as the "Pearl of the West."

Founded in 1531, this charming city lies about 425 miles west and north of Mexico City and 150 miles east of the Pacific Ocean. Its 5,000-foot plain gives it a temperate climate with just a trace of a nip in the night air during the winter months. Thirty-five miles east of Guadalajara is huge Lake Chapala where the *tapatíos*, as the local people call themselves, swim, boat and fish.



Many of Mexico's popular songs are written in and about Guadalajara, and the ubiquitous street singers of Mexico, the *mariachis*, are a Guadalajara product too. Many folk dances are at their best here; the *Jarabe tapatio*, that dance-in-the-hat number, is the most widely known.

Tequila, the highly potent drink made from maguey cactus, is native to the Guadalajara area. There is even a little town named Tequila where one of the largest distilleries is located.

Nowadays, Guadalajara is thickly punctuated with glass-filled buildings that contrast sharply with the sober tranquillity of colonial architecture. The modern city has a population of 500,000 and is growing rapidly due to the increasing wealth of the surrounding area and its own rapid industrialization. There are 72 new residential sections and the southern part of town is enjoying a special boom as a result of the huge new school, the Instituto Tecnológico, recently built there.

There are still many older residential districts in which you can amble along comfortably in a horse-drawn *calandria*, filling your senses with the bright colors and pleasant odors of

old-fashioned gardens which, especially in spring, are spectacular with scarlet *tabachines* and mauve *jacarandas*.

To see Guadalajara, a good place to start — with an eye to the architectural — is the cathedral at the center of the city. Destroyed by an earthquake in 1818, it was then rebuilt and added to so that Doric columns and Corinthian spires combine with Gothic domes and Tuscan cornices. Recently all the buildings surrounding the cathedral were cleared away, leaving a magnificent cross-shaped plaza with many old colonial houses in the background, giving the cathedral an impressive setting.

The most interesting of the four arms that form the cross is the block that begins at the back of the cathedral, the Plaza de la Constitución. It is in this square that the Scala-inspired Degollado Theater smiles through the rows of young trees at people sitting in the sun, having their shoes shined and laughing at the devoted nannies chasing after children splashing in the fountains.



Leaning against the side of the cathedral is the former 17th century Colegio de Varones, now a museum. Built around a cloistered patio, it houses a potpourri collection of ethnological and archaeological treasures, as well as colonial and modern items.

An excellent example of colonial baroque is the historic governor's palace south of the cathedral. Its richly ornamented facade is in sharp contrast to the somber patio. From the patio, up, Orozco's violent frescoes on the stairs challenge all who climb to see the governor, whose offices are on the third floor.



A short stroll brings you to the Hospicio Cabañas, an orphanage, and a pleasant one. The Hospicio has been operating since the beginning of the 19th century, and a feeling of compassion and peace flows through the series

of linked patios and emanates from the solid grey stone walls. It was here that Guadalajara's vigorous painter, José Clemente Orozco, did some of his most striking work. Although his *The Man in the Fire* is currently being restored, and the dome is covered, there are many other panels and vaults.

However, Guadalajara's architecture is predominantly ecclesiastic. There are 67 important churches which give an idea of the strength and wealth of the region in colonial times.

One of the oldest, San Francisco, dates back to the 16th century. Its interior was destroyed 20 years ago, but the exterior is beautifully preserved. Just across from San Francisco is the small temple of Nuestra Señora de Aránzazu. Its facade is austere, but its gold-wrought interior glows with warmth and veneration.

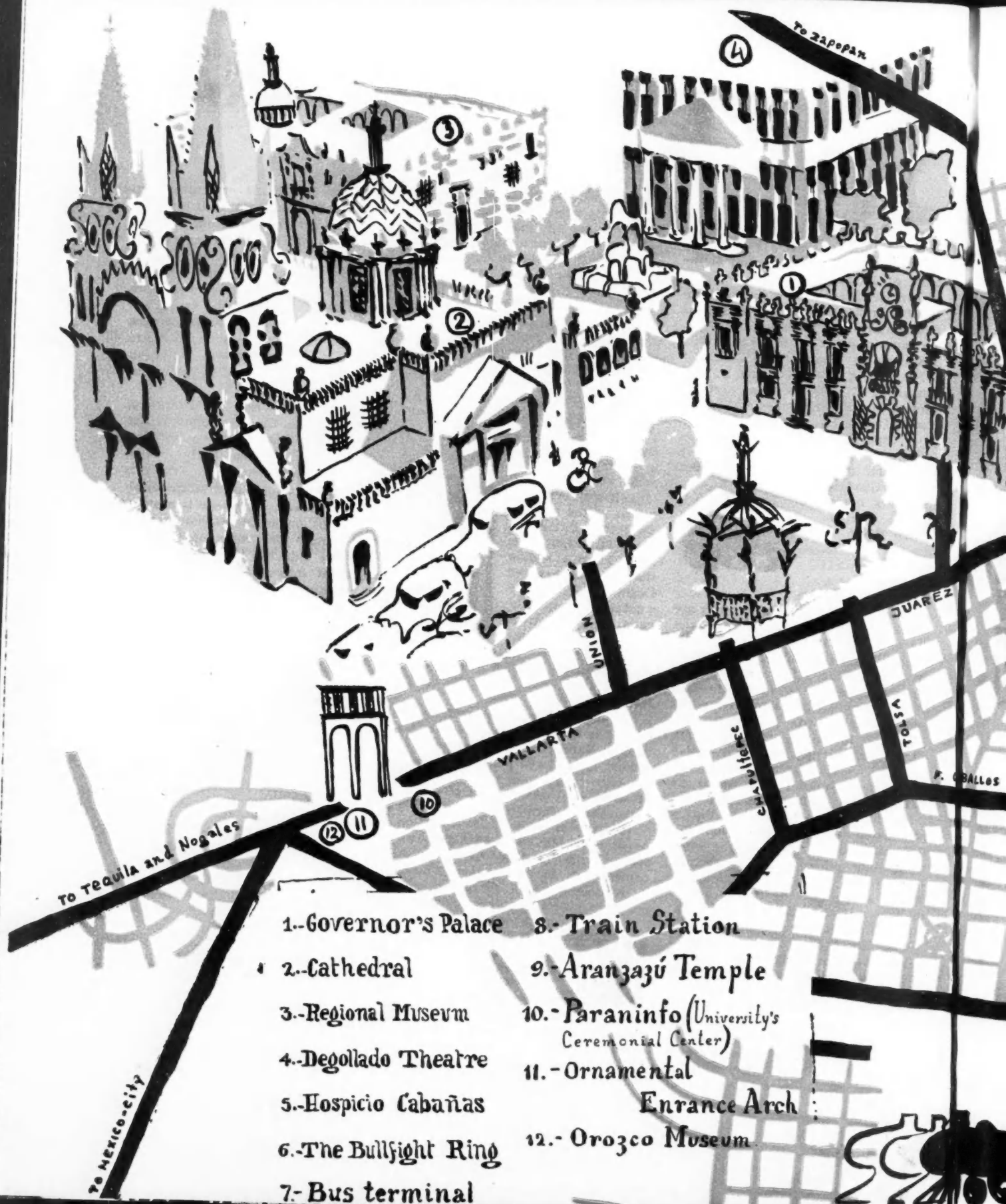
All the churches have their special points of interest, but probably the 18th century San Felipe de Neri, Santa Mónica with its richly adorned, paired columns and remarkable statue of Saint Christopher, as well as the churches of Santa María de Jesús and Santuario de Guadalupe are typical of the finest colonial structures.

The *tapatíos* are proud of their University and its tradition that date back to 1791 — actually permission for the founding of the University of Guadalajara was granted half a century earlier. The Telegraph Office occupies the building that was once the University, and its neo-classical portico quickly draws the eye from modern structures that press in upon it.

The main building of the modern University is now located on Avenida Juárez and boasts more of Orozco's famous frescoes. In the dome and on the wall of the Paraninfo are his powerful murals, *Man as a Beginning and End* and *False Sciences and the Human Problem*. In the chapel are

(Continued on page 16)





Explorer's Map of GUADALAJARA and villages and towns of renown around ~ Drawn for MEXICO/this Month by V.-R. Machado



GUADALAJARA

(Continued from page 13)

murals by Amado de la Cueva and David Alfaro Siqueiros.

For a closer look at the work of Orozco, a trip to his former home and studio is suggested. There are many smaller paintings, drawings, etchings and lithographs on exhibit. Scattered around the studio are his brushes, spare canvases and easel, much as he might have left them.

Orozco had a tradition to follow. Since pre-columbian times, the region has been rich in handicrafts. Aztec kings sat in the rounded, deerskin-covered *equipales* made in the village of San Pedro Tlaquepaque, on the outskirts of Guadalajara. Aztec kings no longer sit in them, and they are now covered with pigskin, but the *equipales* themselves have changed little with the passing of the centuries. There are many other handicrafts, and San Pedro Tlaquepaque, along with

Tonalá and Zapopan, are responsible for much of the silver, leathercraft, copperwork, embroidery, candied fruits and blown glass sold in Guadalajara and throughout Mexico.

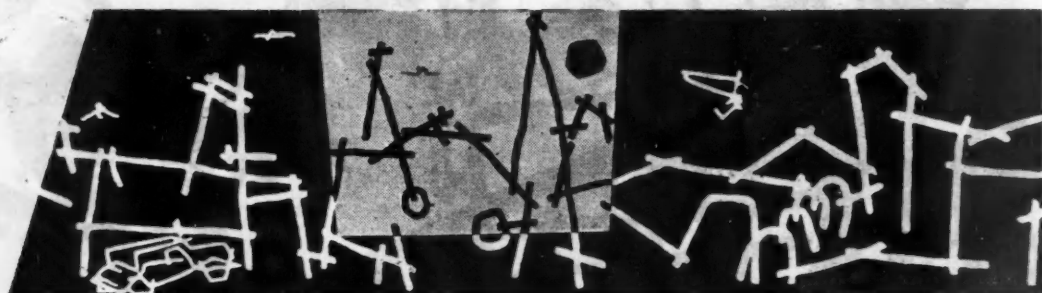
Although the modern city is absorbing these villages, they still preserve much of their rural charm and the workers hand-fashion their goods much as their ancestors did in the pre-colonial era. Tlaquepaque and Zapopan were also resort towns for pleasure-loving 18th and 19th century Guadalajara, and a good part of the gay Jalisco life still centers around them. Zapopan is the home of the famous Virgen de Zapopan, a delicate 10-inch image, which is the center of a colorful religious ceremony each summer.

The regional ceramic museum is housed in one of the oldest buildings in Tlaquepaque and features the traditional ceramics of Tonalá, El Rosario,

Santa Cruz, San Andrés and, of course, Tlaquepaque itself.

Beyond Tlaquepaque the small village of Tonalá fashions the simple pots and pans that are sold all over Mexico, as well as unique and delicate ceramics that are sometimes almost collectors' pieces. The villagers of Tonalá are proud of their statue of San Santiago, their patron saint, and have dressed him as a true *Jalisciense* — which means *muy charro*, with extras. He wears a *mariachi* sombrero, gaucho trousers and a pair of American parachutist "jump" boots.

Back in Guadalajara, the sky seems larger as it curves over the broad plain, and it is especially pleasant to drive out of the city in the late afternoon to watch the sun set beyond the low hills that lie like a crumpled sash to the west. Late in the evening the air is crystalline and the landscape takes on a still, surrealistic air, as if Dali might have painted it.



Detail of Silhouette of Guadalajara painted by Mathias Goeritz

KEY TO MAP

1. The Governor's Palace. Frescoes by Orozco line the wall along the staircase that leads up to the Governor's reception room and more Orozco murals are to be found in the Chamber of Deputies.

2. The Cathedral. Its twin spires are a Guadalajara landmark and a good place to start your sightseeing.

3. The Regional Museum. Once a school for young men, this early colonial (17th century) structure now exhibits the finest in both colonial and modern objets d'art.

4. The Degollado Theater. Inspired by La Scala in Milan, it was inaugurated in 1886.

5. Hospicio Cabañas. This orphanage, housed in a colonial monument, boasts

Orozco's masterpiece, *The Man in the Fire*, which has just been expertly restored.

6. The Bullfight Arena is just to the left of the big central market.

7. The ultra modern Bus Terminal is home port for any of the buses entering or leaving Guadalajara, as well as all of the local city buses.

8. The Train Station. In Guadalajara, be at the station on time or miss your train.

9. The Church of Nuestra Señora de Aránzazu and, nearby, the 16th century Church of San Francisco.

10. The Paraninfo. Here the University of Guadalajara holds its ceremonies.

Two fine Orozco murals make the trip worthwhile.

11. The Monumental Entrance Arch. These arches are found in cities all over Mexico and signal arrival into the metropolitan area.

12. The Orozco Museum. This was the famous Guadalajara painter's last studio before his death, and it has been left much as it was although a number of his earlier paintings are on display.

Routes are marked to Mexico City, and Tequila, where that potent drink is made. Tlaquepaque, century-old handicraft center, and Zapopan, where every summer a tiny image representing the Virgen de Zapopan is *raison d'être* of an elaborate pilgrimage.



Photos Arq. Ignacio Diaz Morales

The facade of the small temple Nuestra Señora de Aránzazu belies the interior, which is richly adorned with gold and reflects the warmth of centuries of devotion and prayer.

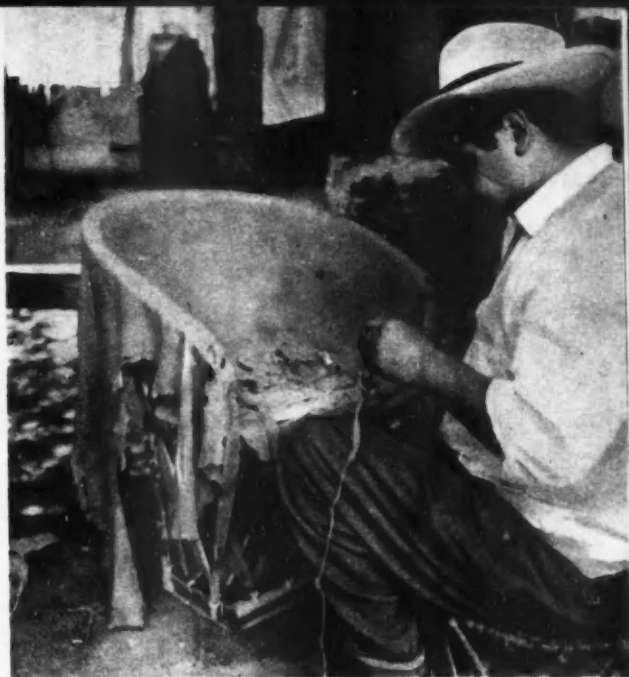


Photo Marianne Goeritz

Astec Emperors once sat on deerskin-covered equipales. The emperors are gone but the chairs are still built in the age-old way, except that pigskin has been substituted and the craftsman takes home his pay in pesos.

Small and simply adorned, the colonial temple of Nuestra Señora de Aránzazu seems to say, "Here is sanctuary."





Relaxing after a hard day's riding, this charro also produces and directs movies — about charros.

Charros

"He - Men on Horseback"

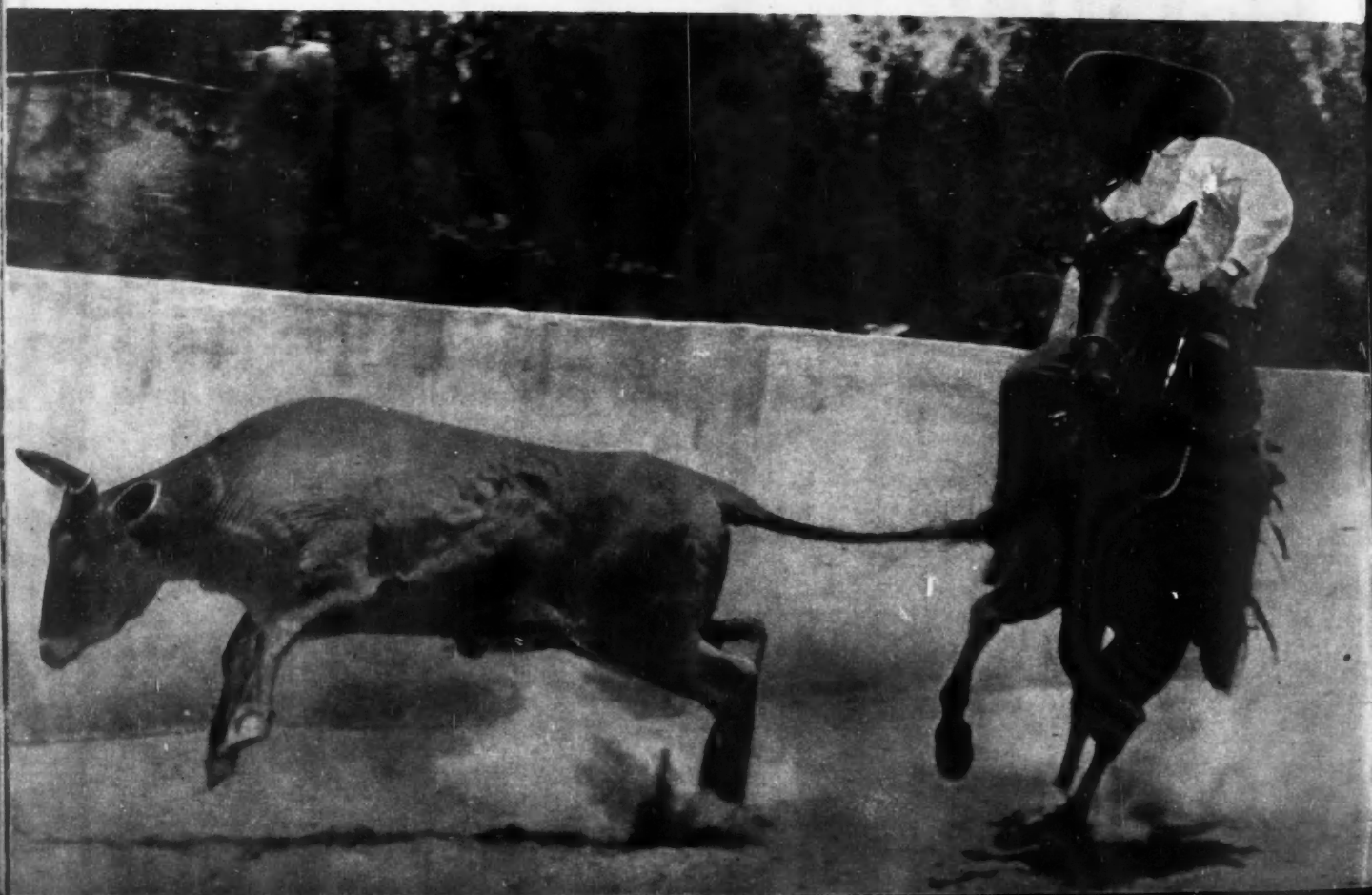
By Don Biggs

When the Aztecs first saw the conquistadores they thought horse and rider to be one awe-inspiring enemy. That they eventually became expert horsemen themselves is a tribute to their courage as well as adaptability.

The crusty old conquerors had few things in common with the subdued Indians, but a high regard for personal bravery was one of them. Out of the two cultures, with the element of courage dominating, grew the hard-riding charro tradition.

The Spaniards jealously guarded their horses from the Indians, passing strict decrees against permitting their still dangerous vassals to learn to ride.

A common but difficult trick is the coleada. At a run the charro wraps the young bull's tail around his boot, then cuts sharply away, skidding the animal off its feet. This is a perfectly executed coleada.





Photos Don Biggs

In older days, the Jarabe tapatio climaxed the day's hard riding and signaled the beginning of the gay fiesta that always followed a jaripeo.

But learn they did. On an hacienda of several hundred thousand acres, who would see a shepherd drop from a tree branch to the back of a nearly wild horse? It was this very immensity of the colonial land grants that finally made it imperative for the *hacendados* to give their workers mounts.

They were surprised at the facility with which the Indians handled horses. Of course they learned quickly. Most of them had been riding for years.

By 1528, eight years after the conquest, the Indians organized their first rodeos — the exciting *jaripeos*.

The traditional charro, stemming from both *hacendado* and *peon*, is

(Continued on page 22)

He may be only eight years old, but from rolled-back sombrero to high-heeled boots he is all charro.



the arts

MUSEOGRAPHY

Opening of Museum's New Maya Room Displays Integrated Picture of Maya Art and Culture...

A corps of young museographers have worked six months creating the Salon Maya in Mexico City's National Museum. Here they are reproducing the famous murals of Bonampak, discovered only a few years ago in the jungles of southern Mexico.

Photos courtesy Instituto Nacional de Antropologia



The totem pole-like figure above is a full form cylinder about 3-1/2 feet high that came from a Palenque temple, probably used as a sort of vase for flower or feather offerings to the gods. The flat stucco carving below is a calendar hieroglyph.



...One in a Series of Ancient Civilization Exhibits

Framed by warm earth colors — deep coral rose, antique gold and leaf green — the masterpieces of Mayan art assembled for the new Salon Maya, just inaugurated in Mexico City's National Museum of Anthropology, are each displayed to individual advantage and yet fit together like a jigsaw puzzle to create the pattern of a culture.

Within the Salon are reproductions of the three rooms in the Temple of Paintings at Bonampak, with faithful copies of the extraordinary murals found there; reproduction of the Sanctuary of the Temple of the Cross in Palenque, with the original stone mural depicting the Maya version of the creation of man, and one of the Copan stelae — pillars carved to mark the date of some important event; pottery from each of the different periods; urns used in religious ceremonies, and a most handsome life-size stone tiger, painted bright red with jade-incrusted spots and eyes. Maps and diagrams painted on the walls set forth clearly the areas of Maya culture, tribal hierarchy, agricultural and food products, technological advances and the calendrical and counting systems.

This sort of beautifully simple integrated display is the hallmark of the new school of Mexican museography which had its practical beginning in the work and teachings of two men, Fernando Gamboa, who now produces movies, and Miguel Covarrubias, the noted muralist and writer (*Mexico South*).

The course of museography now given at the National Institute of Anthropology, under their leadership, includes archaeological, ethnographical and historical studies with students also taking a turn at producing regional handicrafts. This comprehensive study of cultures is very evident in the finished displays since all aspects are treated as an integral, not isolated, part of the pattern of life. The whole is then assembled against imaginative backgrounds of color and lighting that complete the impression of moving momentarily into another place and time.



JD.

By Joseph Hellmer

Visitors to Jalisco's picturesque capital, Guadalajara, will be interested to know that the Mexican equivalent of "hillbilly" music, in its stylized, widely-played radio and record versions, has its origin in the outskirts of this lovely colonial city. Let's be specific. Most of the popular rural Mexican songs currently sung on the radio or recorded on 78 rpm platters are accompanied by a special type of instrument ensemble called *mariachi*. This name was, it is said, given to this kind of ensemble by the French who occupied Guadalajara during the reign of Maximilian in the 60's of the last century, because these musicians accompanied the rural dances used in the wedding or marriage feasts.

The authentic regional music of these groups, gay *sones jaliscienses* with lilting melodies in which the violins alternate with the singers, and a strong rhythmic counterpoint which gives the dancers a good chance to show off their dexterity, rates high among Mexico's most attractive and colorful types of folk music. The group, instrumentally, consists of two violins, a 6-string guitar, a small 5-string guitar with a convex back, called *vihuela*, and a very large guitar with the same basic form as the *vihuela*, also using 5 strings of gut or nylon, which is plucked like a double bass in a jazz orchestra, and is called *guitarrón*, which means "big guitar". The *vihuela* has a sweet and surprisingly penetrating sound which aptly lends

the arts the Music of Jalisco

itself to the expert rhythmic adornments the player executes on it.

Anyone who has heard the passionate strains of *La Mañanera* (The Early Morning), *La Negra*, or *El Carretero* (The Cart Driver) on a moonlit night outdoors, will never forget the clear beauty of the high voices, or the fine-textured but forceful rhythms of the instruments as they weave their musical spell around the listener.

Besides the *mariachi* bands found in Guadalajara, the state of Jalisco has extremely interesting Indian dances, rituals with music and songs. In Ciudad Guzmán there are the *sonajeros* with their exciting duet of two reed flutes accompanied by a small drum and rattles shaken by the dancers in time with the music. There still exist, besides this dance, others which are testimony to the passing of the Aztec peoples through the state of Jalisco on their holy pilgrimage to find their new home under the sign of the eagle devouring the serpent, sign which was finally revealed to them on the site that is now Mexico City.

In the northwestern part of the state there are important groups of Huichol and Cora Indians with extremely interesting and primitive musical expressions that now relate to Christian festivals but which speak eloquently still of impressive pagan customs and ancient tribal gods.

The Huichol Indians have beautiful legends to explain the origins of their music. They relate that one day one of them wanted to express his feelings in music, and his wish was so strong that his heart was transformed into a dove which flew out of his breast, lighted on his hand and on the instant became a violin. Lacking the bow, he grasped a stick on the ground and this became a bow with which he immediately began to play the melodies dictated by his spirit.

CHARROS

(Continued from page 19)

above all a fearless gallant who centuries earlier would have sat at the Round Table with good King Arthur. A real charro drinks tequila, packs a long barrelled revolver, will ride all night to serenade a pretty girl at dawn, and then will be ready to show his best in a rough and ready *charrería* the next day.

And they are rough. The charro does things on a horse that cowboys from north of the border have never seen. The most common is the *toros coleados*. A charro rides alongside a hard-running young bull and, leaning down from the saddle, wraps the animal's tail around his boot. Then spurs his mount and cuts out sharply at an angle, skidding the *torito* off its feet.

The most spectacular feat is the dangerous *paso de la muerte*. At a dead run the rider leaps from his mount to the bare back of an unbroken horse. Other hard-running horses are driven directly behind. If he misses... well, that's why they call it the pass of death.

Today's charro belongs to one of

three groups. He may be a working cowboy — a *vaquero* — who earns his living herding cattle, or a professional charro who works in the movies or at places like Rancho del Charro. But most likely he belongs to the third group, the charros who make up the Federación Nacional de Charros. They are amateurs only in the sense that they ride strictly for the fun of it.

There are about 146 clubs in Mexico which belong in turn to the Federación Nacional de Charros. One typical club in Mexico City has its own stables, practice ring, club house and arena at Rancho La Tapatia on Calzada Molino del Rey in Chapultepec Park.

In the colonial era, to ride a horse, to be a *caballero*, almost automatically placed the rider as a member of the landed gentry. This is reflected in the charro's costume, heavily embroidered and buttoned in silver.

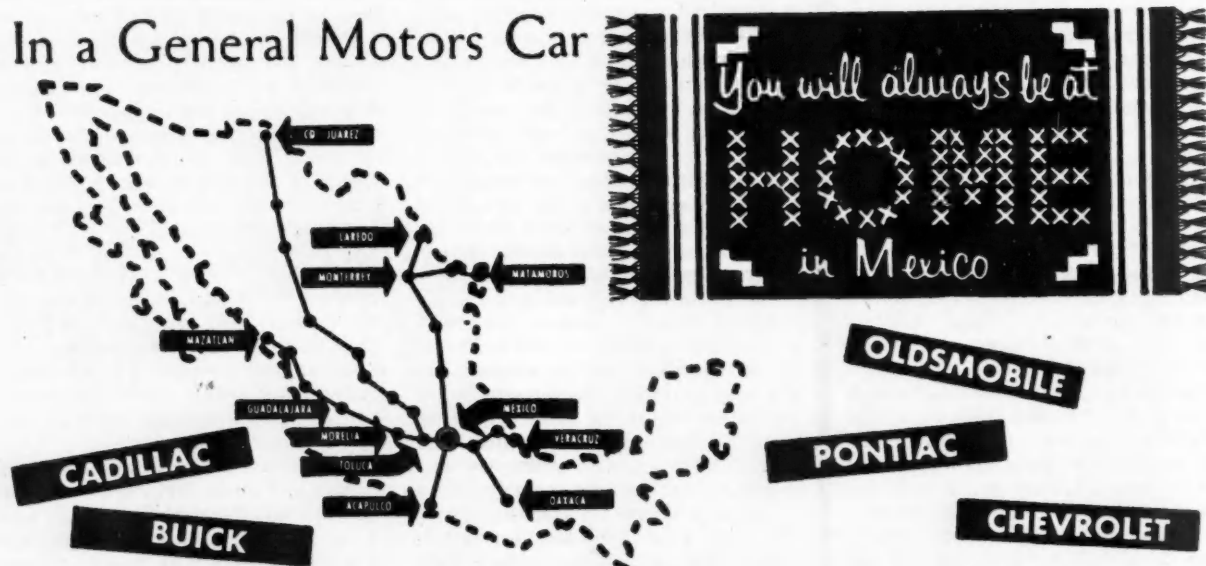
The charro wears a light colored shirt, the *guayabera*, of homespun cotton or fine linen with long full sleeves. A bright silk tie, knotted in a flowing bow, goes with the shirt. A short brown or black suede jacket, worked with silver or gold braid, slips over the

shirt. Matching tight-fitting trousers are richly ornamented. The outer seam of each leg is trimmed with silver or gold, usually horses' heads or coins running from half an inch to an inch in diameter.

His leather belt is also profusely embroidered, as a rule with white, gold or silver thread, and his tailored boots are skin tight and pointed. His sombrero of felt or straw is huge and flamboyant, up in the front and back, and adorned with leather openwork or more metal-on-leather embroidery. A store on the Zócalo in Mexico City specializes in fancy sombreros and charges as high as 3,000 pesos for some. The upturned rim of the sombrero is called the "Jalisco Roll"; for the state of Jalisco is renowned for its dashing charros.

Today in the age of tanks and fighter planes it is hard to visualize the overwhelming superiority of the man on horseback against unmounted or foot infantry. But not too long ago a man's life often depended on his mount and his own riding skill; and the love of horses and of riding skills will live in Mexico as long as there remains one charro.

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BACK TO SCHOOL

(Continued from page 11)

and the great educator Justo Sierra had pointed out that without schools there could be no nation, it was not until 1921 that the full impact of the long need began to be met. From that date, bigger and bigger slices of the national budget were set aside for education. In 1923, under the impetus of José Vasconcelos, it reached 15% of the total federal outlay.

It was in 1923 also that the first "cultural missions" set out to take the rudiments of sanitation, agriculture and other basic needs, along with the ABC's, to rural regions. By 1924, one thousand rural schools assisted by the cultural missions were beginning the drive to give education to all of Mexico's people. This was a gigantic task then. But it is a work that, since that time, has snowballed into many thousands of schools, as well as larger educational centers, stirring up an astonishing ferment, and a thirst for more and more knowledge, that is like a great awakening.

Today's problems are still enormous. Many schools are on double shift. The budget has expanded, but the population, much healthier and better fed, increases faster than at any time before. Somewhere near one-half of the inhabitants are still illiterate, but the tempo of education has been stepped up, and now not only primary schools but normal schools, polytechnic colleges and universities are springing up all over the country.

The literacy campaign started by President Avila Camacho in 1944, in which every literate person was charged with teaching a non-literate to read and write, did not wipe out illiteracy, but it did stir the imagination and brought the concept of civic responsibility into the consciousness of all the people. The campaign goes on now through the *patronato* system, in which local boards give out books and assign instructors, who are often volunteers, to illiterates. By 1954 there were 19,637 such boards, and the number increases constantly.

Basically, education follows one pattern. School is compulsory for the 6 to 14 age group. The first six years are known as *primaria*, the next three years as *secundaria*; after that, *preparatoria* for two years, and then the University for from three to seven

years, depending on the degree sought. However, there are many possibilities once *primaria* is finished. The student has a choice of the 5-year preparatory, the 6-year normal, or one of the commercial, plastic arts or technical schools. The student graduating from *secundaria* may also choose military school, or a school of agriculture.

The *escuelas internados*, a kind of free boarding schools, make education available to children who live in areas where no adequate school exists, or who could not go to school and earn a living at the same time. In 1955, excluding the technical university, the Politécnico, \$33,500,000 pesos were spent on *internados*. Even so, only three pesos a day per student was allotted for food.

Although the big shortage in early years was teachers, this is no longer true. In ten years the number of normal schools almost doubled while enrollments soared from 5,664 in 1945 to 22,635 in 1955. In the same year, 6,852 rural teachers finished correspondence courses.

Space is the problem now. The population defeats the builders. Temporary housing is used while new buildings are erected. Private homes and other buildings are rented. Children mix mud and straw to make adobe bricks and build their own, with their teachers supervising.

In 1957, for example, five new secondary schools will be opened in the Federal District. Even so, 307 temporary buildings, *aulas*, will be utilized and 40 houses rented to handle an estimated 50,000 new students.

But the major problem is not in the cities. Mexico is a country of rural populations. Calles recognized this and planned 1,000 new schools a year. He achieved half that number in his full 6-year term. Cárdenas called for 2,000 new schools a year and fell far short, but the drive for rural education had received its big impetus and under Cárdenas the number of rural schools, students and teachers doubled. Mexico at that time was spending a greater sum per capita, in proportion to its income, on education than any other country in the world.

Probably the cultural missions faced the greatest educational challenge.

Anthropologist Manuel Gamio, as much responsible for the cultural mis-

(Continued on page 24)

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BACK TO SCHOOL

(Continued from page 23)

sions as any one man, fought against the early idea of bringing the Indian into a central school where he learned the worst of the city dwellers' culture and forgot the best of his own. The problem, Gamio insisted, was not just to teach the Indian Spanish, but to acculturate him — to bring him into the nation as a Mexican. To accomplish this the teacher must work like the old colonial friars, Gamio pointed out, and go out among the people. He must be a kind of missionary, learning the Indian ways and languages in order to understand and then teach. The early teachers were called missionaries, and they were that, with all the devotion and heroism the word implies.

In 1955 there were 73 cultural missions, of which 41 were in rural areas. A cultural mission will have about 12 workers, including its chief, a trained educator with a first-hand knowledge of rural problems, a social worker, nurse, and teachers of agriculture, carpentry and masonry as well as of plastic arts and music.

A typical project in rural education is the one now going on in the rugged Huitepec mountains in southern Mexico. In five years, four hospitals, several roads and 54 schools have been built. But even now 78% of the Tzotzil and Tzeltal Indians, among whom these "missionaries" work, do not speak Spanish. With the help of the Instituto Nacional Indigenista Tzeltal-Tzotzil Center this percentage is shrinking.

Because of the extraordinary success Mexico has had with the educating of rural groups, the UNESCO regional school, CREFAL, for the training of teachers for different cultural and language groups, was set up at Lake Patzcuaro, in the former home of ex-President Lázaro Cárdenas, who gave it to CREFAL. The training center cost 20 million dollars and features a 12 year program. The 114 students representing 17 countries enrolled in CREFAL work in the field with Tarascan Indians, and attend classes. Students from all over the world come to the training center to learn how to deal with similar situations in their own countries.

Agricultural schools are of primary importance to a country that only last year, for the first time, was able to feed itself.

The oldest and largest agricultural school, at Chapingo, state of Mexico, not only offers advanced training but also sends out groups of specialists to advise farmers. Point IV gives technical assistance, and the Rockefeller Foundation maintains specialists at Chapingo, who cooperate with the staff.

Many ways of pushing and bettering rural education have been formulated by the different organizations and groups working with or directly under the Secretary of Public Education. Based on information from all these groups, the Secretary believes that the growth of the rural school system is to a large extent dependent on the parallel growth of the community that the school serves. The cultural missions have realized this and insist that the community share in the programs, and groups as well as individuals are always given credit for participation even if the mission itself does most of the work. Each mission leaves an organization of community residents to carry on the work begun.

Obviously, a rural teacher in Mexico must be much more than just a person who has a knowledge of reading and arithmetic. He must be able to become a member of the community and lead it. As the distinguished educator Professor Rafael Ramírez explains: "The urban teacher is a teacher of children; in rural areas the teacher is a teacher of the whole community."

The school or educational center has thus grown into a community base, from which isolated villages reach out to connect themselves with other people in their region, or state, and nation; and thus to the whole outside world. Problems are many. But the cry "Get the people into the schools!" — whether modern buildings or adobe huts — and the flooding-in of all ages, truly answers that other cry of protest and demand that, with rifles, brought all this about.

Modern Mexico is a country that amazes the world by the speed and impetus of its development. The secret is at the roots. In the schools.

Guadalajara Cues

Hotel rates in Guadalajara are very moderate when translated into dollars. Singles in the hotels and motels recommended below average about 25 pesos, and doubles about 40. All rates are regulated by the National Tourist Department, and should be posted in every room.

New Hotel Fenix. Av. Corona 160. Newest and most modern, with roof garden and steam baths. 250 rooms, garage. Rates here are slightly above the average.

Hotel Roma. Av. Juárez 170. Small new hotel, built about 4 years ago. 72 rooms, garage nearby.

Hotel Morales. Av. Corona 243. A small, charming colonial style hotel with 77 rooms. Garage nearby.

Hotel Francés. Maestranza 35. Old colonial monastery converted into hotel with "atmosphere" but all modern conveniences in its 100 rooms.

Motel Campo Bello, just outside Guadalajara on the road to Morelia, left hand side. Specializes in home cooking, American pastry.

Clemen Courts, just outside Guadalajara on the road to Morelia, right hand side. Apartments with kitchen, trailer park.

RESTAURANTS

La Copa de Leche. Av. Juárez 414. For years it has been the place where people go to eat in Guadalajara, not only because the food and service are good, but because it's a local and international rendez-vous.

Chez Jacques. Unión Norte 50, in the residential sector. French and international cooking. Music. Open noon to midnight.

Los Otates, in the residential sector on Av. Chapultepec. Mexican food, tamales, tacos, etc., which can be eaten either in the inside or outside dining area.

Zamponi, downtown in the Chamber of Commerce building. Very good Italian food, with the cook running the place.

Valentina, in front of the Santuario Church on Av. Alcalde. Tiny, but very famous for tasty Mexican food. Tortillas do double duty as pushers because no knives or forks are supplied here.

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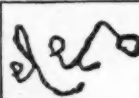
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Central Balneológica, San Juan de Le-
trán 24. Free information on Mex-
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Mexico City Daily Bulletin, Gómez Far-
ías 41. Tel. 16-69-60. General tour-
ist information.

Mexican-North American Cultural In-
stitute, Hamburgo 115. Tel. 25-16-54,
25-16-55, 25-16-56.

National Tourist Department, Juárez
89. General travel information.

PEMEX Travel Club, Juárez 89. High-
way information. Publishes an ex-
cellent auto travel bulletin in Eng-
lish.

The News, Morelos 4. Tel. 21-23-35,
46-69-04, 46-68-40. Worldwide and
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IN THE SHOPS

Guadalajara is home base for most of the more widely-known Mexican handicrafts, and many of the shops, both within the city and in the small surrounding villages, have craftsmen at work, so if you have a yen for something particularly distinctive and personal, you can ask the glass blower to give a special twist to that iridescent floral centerpiece, have your portrait done in clay, or get just the color you want woven into your handsome new drapes.

If you are interested in shopping — and bargaining — on a grand scale, the best place to start is at the big municipal market, San Juan de Dios, on the Calzada de Independencia. Here you can get a quick overall view of the handicrafts produced in the region, and then make more leisurely rounds of the specialty shops.

The most ancient of the handicrafts — pottery-making, with designs and production methods dating from pre-Conquest times — is still one of the

NIGHT SPOTS



Afro, Hotel Plaza Vista Hermosa. Night club with an African setting; jungle atmosphere complete with songbirds. Two good orchestras specializing in tropical music.

Capri, Supper club in the Hotel Regis. Popular composer Cuco Sánchez, Portuguese songstress Helena Gonzalo. Music by the orchestras of Américo Caggiano and Fernando Guarneros.

Bamerette, Hotel Bamer. Vicente Garri-
do and his piano from 6 to 10 pm.

Hotel Continental Hilton. In the Belvedere, rooftop restaurant and night club, music by Vicente Garrido and his orchestra; Copacabana Quintet. In La Joya, intimate champagne salon, Chilean singer Malú Gatica.

Jacaranda, Génova 44. Exclusive night club, with unusual modern archi-
tecture, presents nightly its "dan-
cing waters" show; Toscano's
French orchestra; violinist Le Roy.

Hotel Alfter, Revillagigedo 18. In the
Indra Bar, Cuban Manolo Hernán-
dez, original song stylist. In the
Rondinella, music by the orchestras
of Carlos Camacho and Antonio Es-
pino, vocalist Delia Ortiz.

Restaurant 1-2-3, Liverpool 123. Restau-
rant-bar with international cuisine
and continuous music.

El Eco, Sullivan 43. Night club and
restaurant-bar. Rock-and-Roll, Be-
Bop, Dixie Jazz, and Afro-Cuban
music.

Versalles, Hotel del Prado. Fashionable
night club, with internationally
known entertainers and the contin-
uous music of two orchestras.

Quid, Puebla 152. Restaurant-bar, ex-
cellent food. Popular Mexican singer
Elvira Ríos at 10 pm; pianist Pepe
Jaramillo and organist Nacho Gar-
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Monte Cassino, Génova 56. Restaurant-
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thriving industries, and while several large factories have gone up to supply the Mexican internal market with machine-made dishes, the Indian potters spin their wheels unconcernedly, for demand for their goods is still more than equal to their output. For this (particularly the traditional blue and black floral pattern), the best places to go are two little villages just outside Guadalajara — San Pedro Tlaquepaque and Tonalá.

In Tlaquepaque, don't fail to visit the Museum of Ceramics, Independencia 237, which is a branch of the National Museum of Native Arts and Crafts where the selection and quality are faultless. Don't be misled by the title "Museum". You can also buy things, although it's a non-profit government institution. Also recommended in Tlaquepaque is Aldana at Progreso 40. The master potter of them all is Amado Galván, who has his workshop in Tonalá, but his pieces are on sale at the Museum in Tlaquepaque.

Leatherworking, with intricate carving and embroidery on leather, is among the best the Republic has to offer. It could hardly fail to be since this is the charro center of Mexico, where horsemanship is a fine art and splendid costumes and trappings a necessity. Again in Tlaquepaque, look especially at Castelano's on Independencia 157.

Also, there is a leather chair — all-enveloping in both construction and comfort — that belongs particularly to this region. It's called an *equipal*, and in Indian times deerskin was used. Now the leather is pigskin. The base is made of split thicknesses of wood crisscrossed and tied with leather thongs, and the seat and back are all in one, out of leather. Although it has a semi-rigid frame, it's wonderfully adjustable to your position, whim or mood. The chairs are light and practically indestructible, so you can have them shipped home. Benigno Gómez at Manzano 214, is one place in Guadalajara where you can find them.

If you like to watch glass-blowers at work — not only the ones who work with tiny pipes and fashion intricate sailing vessels and minute fig-

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ures, but also those who work in semi-darkness, fashioning tremendous blobs of glass clinging to long, heavy tubes into vases and pitchers — visit the factory in Guadalajara, Gante 29.

The colonial appearance and feeling of Guadalajara provide just the right atmosphere for antique shopping — beautiful old crystal chandeliers, fine china, heirloom and modern art objects — and you can find them in choice quality at Regalos Imperial, Av. Juárez 43. The store also has a branch in Mexico City, at Londres 165, with a permanent exposition of the paintings of José María Servín.

One of the very special shop-workrooms of Guadalajara is that of Plan (the owner's name and the name of her shop), who turns out handsome hand-loomed fabrics. The establishment, at Hidalgo 1378, which is at the same time Plan's home, is built around several patios filled with tropical potted plants. An artist of great originality in fabrics, she began working only in cotton, but now there is practically no material which Plan does not use in her weaving: pieces of wood, bamboo, strings, metal threads and stones, for instance, which give her fabrics a unique quality. Two floors of the new Continental Hilton in Mexico City are fitted out with drapes from her looms. In addition to decorator materials, she also designs and makes shirts, blouses, rebozos and bags.

Just 35 miles south of Guadalajara is Lake Chapala, the largest lake in the Republic. On the lake shores, the little village of Ajijic has become a shopper's must, too. Here, a foreign (mostly American) artist colony has taken root and produced fine things, especially in the field of fabrics. We had tea at Helen Kirtland's when she was just beginning to produce in quantity the handsome hand-loomed fabrics in cotton and wool that are now sought after both by U.S. and Mexico City stores. She also makes up her fabrics in her own designs for sports jackets, shirts and dresses. Her place of business is just across from the Posada Ajijic.

We also visited the authoress Nell James there that year, at her house-shop surrounded with flowers. She was making delightful hand-embroidered cotton blouses — bright colored geometric designs or flowers, mostly on white, and tending her newly-planted


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mulberry trees and first small experimental batch of silkworms. That she could produce silk and then weave fabric seemed like an exotic oriental dream at that time. But 1957 finds Miss James selling silk blouses and shirts that are truly home-grown products.

One last note, although shopping in the Guadalajara area is an inexhaustible... and exhausting... experience, a bout hand-embroidered blouses. In fire cotton, that looks and wears like linen, they can be had in a variety of colors and styles at the following Guadalajara shops: Matilde Okhuysen Oldendorff, Justo Sierra 668; Emma Carrol de Salmón, Av. Bosque 504; and Cotton-Hand-Made, at Alcalde 655.



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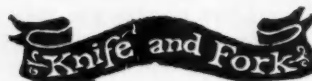
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Jalisco Specialty

There are two great problems in translating Mexican recipes into another language and into other countries' kitchens. One, of course, is the ingredients, which when not available can sometimes be approximated, but more often not, so either you are satisfied with giving a traditional dish a new flavor or you wait to eat it on its home base.

The other problem, more difficult to evaluate in terms of results, is method and equipment. Many Mexicans, for instance, use the liquidizer for grinding up their sauces, and there are others who say there is no comparison in taste with sauce made in the *molcajete* (stone mortar and pestle arrangement). We lean to the latter opinion and save our liquidizer for milk shakes and daiquiris. But even with the liquidizer and pressure cooker, the Mexican cook still must spend a great deal of time preparing meals because the basis of the taste pattern is a subtle blending of flavors that can really be achieved only by diligent chopping, grinding and mashing, and then simmering for hours.

Keeping these two factors in mind, also this being a Guadalajara issue, we decided we could translate a famous Jalisco specialty into a very reasonable facsimile for cooks north of the border.

It is a soup on the bottom, and a salad on top, called *pozole*, and its

principal ingredient is a special kind of corn called *cacahuazintle* which looks and tastes almost exactly like hominy. Here in Mexico this corn is soaked in lime water and then each kernel is handled separately to remove the husks. This sort of thing would only be possible in the kind of menage that existed in one of our friends' grandmother's house, where they had 2 washerwomen, 3 chambermaids, 1 dishwasher, 2 cooks for regular cooking, 1 woman to make the candies and sweets of milk (these require careful watching and much stirring), 1 to make all other candies and sweets, 1 to take care of the birds that ate birdseeds, and 1 to take care of the birds that ate mashed bananas and chopped files. The latter two in their free moments were supposed to polish up the leaves on all the potted plants in the corridors and patios, so they really had no time to laze about.

But, back to

POZOLES

The broth is made of pork. Put to stew pigs' feet and if possible the head — ears and snout are a great delicacy for connoisseurs of this dish — or just bones with lots of meat. The next step is optional because it involves chile — *chile ancho*, which you can buy in any Mexican market. It is the dried, flat, reddish-brown chile that is very mild. Put several to soak for at least an hour in salt water, drain, remove the seeds, and then grind up in the liquidizer with a little water and a clove of garlic. Sauté this sauce in a couple of tablespoons of cooking oil until the sauce turns a deeper brown, then add bit by bit to the gently simmering meat, tasting as you go so you can control the degree of piquancy. Continue cooking until meat is done. Remove all meat and bones from the broth and reserve meat to divide up between the soup bowls according to preference. Add canned hominy (figure about 1/2 cup per portion), and simmer gently for at least 30 minutes so that it absorbs the meat flavor. Salt to taste. Pour hominy and broth over the meat and take to the table in great, steaming bowls.

Now, here's where the salad part comes in. Have ready for garnish the following: onion, chopped very fine; lettuce, also chopped fine; radishes, very thinly sliced; and *orégano* — not powdered, but the herb in its crumbly state — and some thin wedges of lemon or lime. Pass the garnish plate and let everyone sprinkle his own. Squeeze the lime, though.

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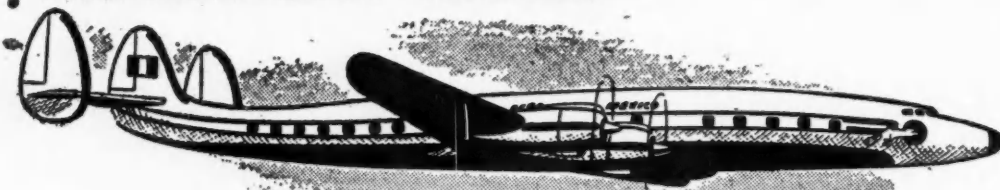


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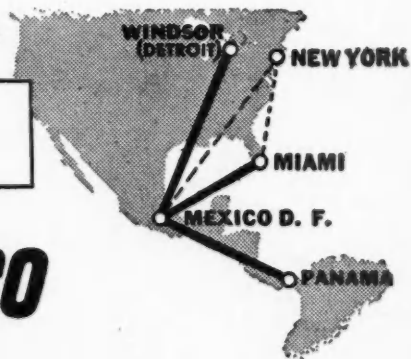
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